

Cleanup and Collaboration Result in Widespread Beneficial Effects for Local Communities

For over three decades, EPA's Superfund program and its partners have remediated contaminated hazardous waste sites and furthered community goals for reuse. Communities reuse Superfund sites in many ways – parks, shopping centers, athletic fields, wildlife sanctuaries, manufacturing facilities, residences, roads and more.

Many reuse outcomes can play a role in economically revitalizing a community.

Before



The 446-acre Midvale Slag Superfund site in Midvale, Utah, was once home to five smelters that processed lead and copper ore. Today, shopping centers, office space, neighborhoods, affordable housing, a light rail station, a park and riverside trails are located on site.



After



Before

Decades of industrial activities and improper waste disposal contaminated soil and groundwater at the 10-square-mile Tucson International Airport Superfund site in Tucson, Arizona. Today, over 100 new and long-time businesses operate at the site, providing aviation-related industrial and commercial services. Treated groundwater provides about 6.3 million gallons of clean water to the city of Tucson each day.



After

How Superfund Makes a Difference in Communities

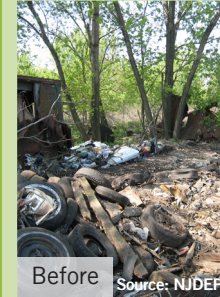
EPA measures the economic beneficial effects of reuse at Superfund sites by collecting the following types of information:

- Number of businesses located on site.
- Number of people employed at site businesses.
- Annual employment income from on-site jobs.
- Annual sales revenue generated by businesses on site.
- On-site property value and property tax information.
- Other economic impacts that are unique to specific sites.

Understanding these benefits helps EPA and communities communicate about the important difference Superfund cleanups make for local economies and quality of life.

What are the Benefits of Reuse?

As of 2020, there were over 900 non-federal facility Superfund sites in new or continued use. At 632 of those sites, 9,902 businesses employ over 227,000 people, providing about \$16 billion in annual employment income. In 2020, those businesses generated over \$63 billion in estimated annual sales revenue.



Before

Source: NJDEP

In Jersey City, New Jersey, landfilling and illegal waste disposal took place along the Hackensack River between 1970 and the mid-1980s. These activities contaminated soil and groundwater at the 87-acre PJP Landfill Superfund site. Today, three on-site businesses support the local economy. Restored wetlands at the site provide wildlife habitat. Walkways and benches provide a riverfront recreation amenity.



After

National economic information and regional economic reports are available on the Superfund Redevelopment Program's (SRP's) Redevelopment Economics at Superfund Sites webpage at <https://www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment-initiative/redevelopment-economics-superfund-sites>.

EPA has collected economic data since 2011. Between 2011 and 2020, cumulative sales at all site businesses reached nearly \$394 billion (2020 USD). Cumulative employment income generated by those businesses exceeded \$92 billion (2020 USD).



Site-specific case studies contain detailed information about the economic benefits associated with site businesses, in addition to benefits provided by particular uses, such as alternative energy or recreation.

Case studies are available on the Redevelopment Economics at Superfund Sites webpage at <https://www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment-initiative/redevelopment-economics-superfund-sites>.

For more information about Superfund redevelopment, contact:

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Or visit:
SRP's homepage at <https://www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment-initiative>

SRP's Redevelopment Economics at Superfund Sites webpage at <https://www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment-initiative/redevelopment-economics-superfund-sites>

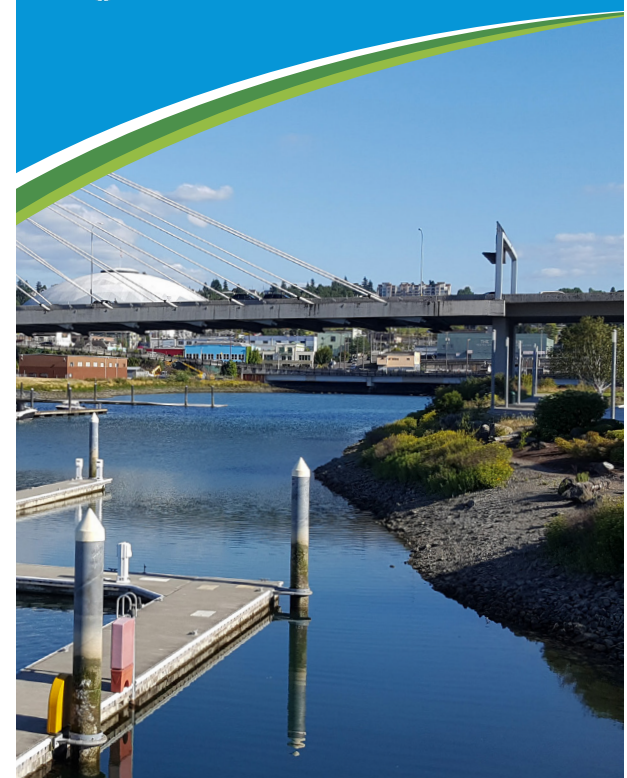


>> Front page photograph: Revitalized waterfront along the Thea Foss Waterway, part of the Commencement Bay, Near Shore/Tide Flats Superfund site in Tacoma, Washington.



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*Working with our state and tribal
partners to return Superfund sites
to beneficial use.*